



Crassostrea virginica

American oyster, Atlantic oyster, Common oyster

Threat scores

1. Ecological Impact
 - Fouling organism; ecological impacts unstudied in Hawaii
 - Before a die-off in the early 1970s, these oyster formed extensive dense beds in the estuarine areas of Pearl Harbor which undoubtedly affected the native benthic communities there
2. Invasive Potential
 - Larvae reported to exploit tidal transport systems
 - Delaware Bay studies show larval spreading in definite lanes upstream and downstream from adult populations, some found to set 20 miles upstream from the adults
3. Geographic Extent
 - Locally patchy



Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Atlantic Coast from Gulf of St. Lawrence to Brazil
2. Introduced: Washington, Oregon, California, Hawai'i
3. Habitats
 - Estuaries and bays
 - Oysters cannot tolerate prolonged exposure to marine or freshwater conditions
 - Found in shallow water of tidal to subtidal depth of fairly constant turbidity and salinity

Invasion Pathways

1. Stocking in open water - oyster farming

Non-Native Locations

1. 56- Puget Trough/Georgia Basin
2. 57- OR, WA, Vancouver
3. 58- Northern California
4. 152- Hawaiian Islands

Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
2. <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment>
3. <http://www2.bishopmuseum.org/dargis/esri/images/Crassostrea%20virginica.jpg>